other pesticide such as Organophosphorus, Carbamates and Pyrethroids could be detected in these samples.

(c) A Central Sector Scheme in the Ministry of Agriculture for monitoring pesticide residues at National Level has been approved this year in order to ascertain prevalence of Pesticide Residue at farm and market level to enable the remedial measures to be undertaken as required.

The Central and State Governments are implementing training programmes to various extension functionaries, dealers and farmers on the safe and judicious use of pesticides.

Ill-effects of commercialisation of medical services and medical education

1163. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that the owners of most of the private sector hospitals and medical colleges are essentially business men and they have reduced medical care to the level of a business or industry by employing over investigation, and performing surgery unnecessarily, keeping brain dead cases on ventilator for days purely for monetary gains;

(b) whether it is also a fact that commercialisation of medical education has resulted into commercialisation of medical practice and ethical standards have fallen and the practice of medicine has become a trade but not a calling; and

(c) what comprehensive measures Government have conceived and implemented to correct, control and contain this evil effectively and efficiently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Health being a State subject, it is for the State Government to regulate/monitor the functioning of its hospitals, including private hospitals as well as to ensure that they comply with the norms/regulations prescribed by respective State Governments as well as to take punitive action against private hospitals/ doctors in cases of proven unethical and unscrupulous conduct. In cases of over investigations, unnecessary surgeries, keeping brain dead cases on ventilator etc., the aggrieved party can also take recourse to legal remedies under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which covers the private hospitals/private medical practitioners.

In addition, the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette & Ethics) Regulations, 2002, complaints with regard to professional misconduct can be brought before the Medical Council of India or the concerned State Medical Council, as the the case may be, for disciplinary action. If found guilty, appropriate Medical Council may award such punishment as deemed necessary or may direct the removal altogether or for a specified period the name of the delinquent from the register of registered medical practitioners.

The National Health Policy, 2002 envisages the participation of the private sector in all areas of health activities—primary, secondary or tertiary.

" According to the judgement dated 31st October, 2002 given by Supreme Court of India in the case of T.M.A. Pai Foundation & Others, v/s State of karnataka and others, the unaided private institutions have to adopt a rational fee structure and they are expected not to charge capitation fee or indulge in profiteering.

A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court has further laid down that private medical institutes have the freedom to fix their own fee structure. However, each State Government is required to set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of a retired High Court Judge to decide whether the fee proposed by the institute is justified and does not amount to profiteering or charging of capitation fee. The said Committee may approve the fee structure proposed by the Institute or may propose some other fee which shall be binding on the institute for a period of three years.

Junk food habit among the people

1164. SHRI VARINDEB SINGH BAJWA:

SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are aware that junk food is fast gaining popularity in metropolitan cities like Mumbai, Chandigarh and Delhi wherein people are getting quickly attracted towardsit;

(b) if so, whether the food experts the world over, have expressed their concern over increasing consumption of junk food as a large number of children and youth far failing victims;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take concrete steps to check the expanding junk food culture in order to save our children from its adverse impact;